

REMARKS**Summary of the Office Action**

In the Office Action, Claim 19 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Nos. 3,770,292 to *Palazzetti* in view of 6,293,530 to *Delorenzis* and 6,022,005 to *Gran*.

Summary of the Response to the Office Action

Applicant proposes amending Claim 20 and canceling claim 19.

All Claims are Allowable

In the Office Action, Claim 19 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Nos. 3,770,292 to *Palazzetti* in view of 6,293,530 to *Delorenzis* and 6,022,005 to *Gran*. The Examiner has noted that Claims 20 - 22 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. As amended, Claim 20 now incorporates all of the limitations of the previous Claim 20, along with all limitations of the previous, now-canceled, base claim, Claim 19. Applicant respectfully submits that, in accordance with the Examiner's statement of Allowable Subject Matter, Claim 20 is in now allowable.

Claim 21 depends on amended Claim 20, which is now allowable. For the reasons stated above, Claim 21 therefore depends on an allowable base claim. Likewise, Claim 22 depends on Claim 21, which is now allowable, as Claim 21 depends on an allowable base claim.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests the entry of this Amendment to place the application in clear condition for allowance or, in the alternative, in better form for appeal. Applicant also requests the Examiner's reconsideration and reexamination of the application and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

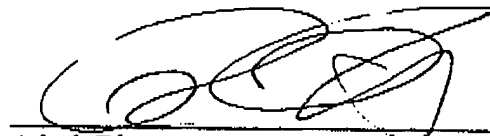
If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 04-2223. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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